

Claims

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1. Conveyor belt system (1) for transporting products through a bath of liquid, such as heated cooking oil in an oven (2), comprising a feed belt (3), accommodated in a base frame (4), and a top belt (5), located above the feed belt (3) and accommodated in an auxiliary frame (6), for transporting the products through the bath of liquid between the top belt (5) and the feed belt (3), as well an adjustable support mechanism (14, 15) for adjusting the distance between the feed belt (3) and top belt (5), which support mechanism (14, 15) comprises further adjustable supports (14, 15) by means of which the auxiliary frame (6) is supported on the base frame (4), characterised in that all supports (14, 15) are mechanically coupled to one another by coupling means (23) for common adjustment thereof.

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15 2. Conveyor belt system according to Claim 1, wherein the coupling means (23) are connected to one and only one central control element (24).

3. Conveyor belt system according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein each support comprises a ramp mechanism, which ramp mechanisms (14, 15) are connected to one another by means of a pull element (25) to provide relative movements in each ramp mechanism, which movements are associated with adjustment movements transverse to the base frame (4) and auxiliary frame (6).

25 4. Conveyor belt system according to Claim 3, wherein each ramp mechanism (14, 15) comprises a ramp support (16) and a block (18) which can be moved with respect to one another, one of which is fixed with respect to one of the frames (4, 6) and the other is movably connected to a frame (4, 6) in order to provide adjustment movements.

30 5. Conveyor belt system according to Claim 4, wherein at least two ramp mechanisms (14, 15) are provided on each longitudinal side of the frames (4, 6), such that the slope of the ramp mechanisms (14, 15) on one longitudinal side is opposite to the slope of the ramp mechanisms (14, 15) on the other longitudinal side, which ramp mechanisms (14, 15) are connected to one another by a pull element (23) that changes direction close to at least one transverse side of the frames (4, 6).

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the conveyor belt system (1) being located in said tank (34).

Sub B4 12. Oven (2) according to Claim 11, wherein the drive for the coupling means (23) is located outside ~~the tank~~ or cover.

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Sub B5 13. ~~Oven (2) according to Claim 11 or 12~~, wherein a lifting device (33) is provided for lifting the cover (35) and the conveyor belt system (1) relative to the tank (34).

14. Method for operating an oven (2) according to Claim 13 for adjustment of the distance between the feed belt (3) and the top belt (5), comprising the following steps:

- increasing the distance between the feed belt (3) and the top belt (5) by means of the lifting device (33),
- adjusting the supports (14, 15) in order to obtain a new support position related to the new, desired distance between the feed belt (3) and the top belt (5),
- 15 - transferring the support of the top belt (5) on the feed belt (3) to the supports (14, 15).

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